

**BUDGET COUNCIL MINUTES**  
MONDAY, MAY 12, 2025, AT 2:00 P.M.  
DON Lecture Hall Meeting

BC MEMBERS:

- ☒ **Cari Schwen**, Exec. Director of Fiscal Services (CHAIR)
- ☒ **Sandra Bauman**, Dean/CEO
- ☒ **Jessie Pate**, Director of IR & Effectiveness
- ☒ **Jason Grimmis**, Director of Crisis & Emerg. Resp
- ☒ **Amy Kong**, Director of eLearning & Fac. Dev.
- ☐ **Mel Ewing**, CIO
- ☒ **Robyn Kiesling**, Exec. Dir. Gen Ed & Transfer
- ☒ **Tod Dumas**, Aviation Instructor
- ☐ **Larry Taylor**, Anatomy & Physiology Instructor
- ☒ **Patricia Pierson**, Librarian
- ☒ **Paige Payne**, Executive Assistant (recorder)

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**BC Mission:** The Budget Council utilizes broad stakeholder representation to carry out responsible and realistic budget planning that aligns with the strategic goals of our campus and the Montana University System. We strive to foster a culture of financial integrity and collaborative governance, ultimately contributing to the sustained growth and success of our institution.

**Helena College Mission:** Helena College supports our diverse community by providing the paths and tools necessary to assist learners in achieving their educational and career goals.

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## Mastermind Discussion Agenda

### Allocation for Budget Discussion

- Helena College's allocation was released.
- The BC will review the budget at the next meeting on May 27. Committee members will bring requests for budget increases or OTO funds to the next council meeting.
- The Regents will approve the allocation and tuition increase at the BOR meeting on May 21.
- Surplus Priorities
  - The budget is expected to have surplus funds. The BC will prioritize how to use the surplus if it is available.
- A spreadsheet will be in the MS team to list priorities under three categories.
- Excess payout at the end of the FY
  - Contingencies – save funds for later
  - Items to acquire now.